



**FEBRUARY, 2019    VOLUME 16, ISSUE 2    ©Radio Club of Tacoma W7DK**

## **"Snopocolypse" 2019 and its impact on local amateur radio**

It's really amazing the difference just a single week can make when it comes to Mother Nature! A week ago today, just after 11:00 AM local time, the snow began. Who then knew it would truly become the February snow storm of the century, racking up more snow than any other such storm since 1923. We ended up with 16 inches on our property by Monday afternoon. So much in fact that I learned my ATV that I use to drive to the wood shed down by the barn can only handle about 12 inches! Beyond that the body of the machine simply bogs down and the little 150cc motor can no longer provide enough power to move.

But every time snow falls, most of us in the amateur radio community first turn our thoughts to "will my antennas make it this time"? Will the snow be wet and heavy, and cling to every inch of wire painstakingly strung high atop trees, only to freeze solid at night, bringing the entire system to the ground overnight, taking us off the air? I too had these very concerns from the moment the snow began, walking out to see how much snow was accumulating on my primary low-band wire antenna every couple of hours. It's a ladder-line-fed doublet up about 100 feet, and 150 feet length and the first antenna I've had for many years that performs very well on 160, 80, 40 and 30. As the snow accumulated I could see the wire getting fatter and fatter high above the ground. Never a good feeling for a ham radio operator! Hooray, that antenna and my two other wire antennas all survived, thankfully. But I'm very sure I was one of the lucky ones. How many reading this either had damage to an antenna system or lost it entirely? I'm pretty sure there are more than one or two. So I count myself very lucky I don't have to bring out the "antenna hanging crew" to start all over again, in the middle of winter.

But another aspect of a storm like this is how weather can bring neighbors together. Sometimes it can even bring attention and focus to amateur radio. We live on a fairly rural, steep private lane in Burley, just north of Purdy along Highway 16. Until this week, we just never had cause or opportunity to really meet our few neighbors. However, the debacle of having a steep road shared by all and no one to plow it has a way of bringing people out of doors, over email and text, and to work as a team to solve a common problem.

During our interactions with our new friends at the very top of the hill, Mark and his wife Jessica, we were given an opportunity to discuss amateur radio

## **THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER**



**DAVE W7UUU**

### **Contents**

- Pg. 1 President's Comments
- Pg. 2 Storm Damage
- Pg. 3 Dental Loupes soldering aid
- Pg. 4 New Club Antenna
- Pg. 5 New QSL Manager
- Pg. 7 ARES Report
- Pg. 9 MFJ618 mods
- Pg. 10 PMT Equipment List
- Pg. 12 This and That
- Pg. 13 General Meeting minutes
- Pg. 15 Board of Directors minutes
- Pg. 18 Staff
- Pg. 19 Lunch Menu & Order slip

Once again I offer a big Thank You to all who took the time and made the effort to submit ideas and articles to help make the Logger's Bark the quality newsletter it is.

P. J. Hicks, N7PH, editor.

Don't forget! Lunch sandwiches are now being served before the meeting. *See last page.*





in some detail. They had seen my roof tower and beam antennas going up last summer, when they would drive by on their way up the hill. So in the middle of a 16 inch snow pack, I had the chance to visit with Mark and explain the virtues of amateur radio, its role in emergency communications not just locally, but regionally and even globally. He was very engaged and seemed fascinated by the prospects of possibly having such capability himself. We discussed initial steps of what it would take for him to do just that down the road. And in return, they have offered to help us get into raising our own chickens next summer, as they are quite experienced at it themselves!

So who knows? Perhaps the Snopocalypse of Valentine's week 2019 will help inspire folks just like Mark not only to join a hobby we all enjoy, but become licensed so that he too could one day help his community by providing needed communications when other options were not available.

I hope everyone got through the storm alright, kept their vehicles shiny side up, and are just as we are, anxiously awaiting the imminent arrival

of Spring.

73

Dave

W7UUU

### Speaking of Storm Damage

Bob Heselberg K7MXE sent in this picture of his 2 meter antenna brought down by the weight of almost 18 inches of wet snow that fell in his area during the recent week long storm. I hope other members took the needed measures to ameliorate damage to their antenna systems. When suffering such damage in such conditions please [take all safety precautions to be safe.](#)





## Dental Student Loupes— soldering and inspection aid

As we get older, challenges arise to our design and building fun. Vision is usually the first to weaken and make soldering, parts placement, and inspection difficult. There are several common aids used to help with this. Lighted magnifiers, headband magnifier lens holders, articulated magnifier lens, etc. I have tried them all. Until recently my go-to aid was an articulated lighted magnifier lens about 5" in diameter with a fluorescent ring light surrounding the lens. The problem for me is that when in use and focus the lens is only about 4" or 5" above the work and I inevitably end up with my nose brushing the lens in order to focus and it fogs up from my breath. The position also blocks the free movement of the soldering iron and the iron often bumps the light and the tip manages to burn my hand. Not cool! I have similar problems with head worn aids in that they position my head, nose, and or eyes too close to the work. But I do love solder fumes...

I think I have found a solution to the problem. The dental/medical loupe. You have all seen your dentist use them when he or she examines you. I'm talking about the eyeglass appearing frame that has a loupe magnifier just in front of each lens. They are worn like eyeglasses. The key here is the focal length, usually between 14" and 18". This allows you to keep your head up and not hunch over the work. The area in focus is about 3" to 4" in diameter with good depth of field; making it easy to stay focused. The loupes are commonly available in 2.5X and 3.5X but other diopters can be found with some searching. The loupes have eyeglass lenses in the frame behind them and the loupes usually can be flipped up out of the way when not in use. The eyeglass lenses can be obtained with prescription grinds if you are willing to spend the money. My dental student experimental set cost about \$32.00 from eBay. [Search for Dental Student Loupes.](#)

[Dental Loupes 3.5X 420mm Surgical Binocular Medical Dentist Metal Frame Glasses](#)    Item: 292394905030



3.5x420mm



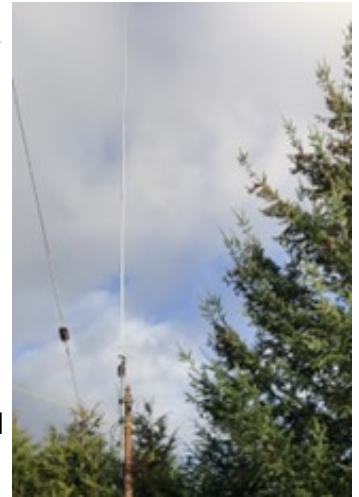
*Ed. Note; I have been using my set for approx. 5 weeks. It took about an hour to get comfortable with using them. They are, however, working well and are better than the lighted magnifier.*



## New Clubhouse Antenna

In January, Warren NG7G and I installed a Comet vertical antenna at the clubhouse. The antenna is mounted on one of the tower guying posts (south of the garage) replacing the 10 meter mono-band antenna. The Comet CHA250B is a HF/VHF broadband vertical antenna that covers 6 – 80 meters. This antenna is made of aircraft grade aluminum with a total length of 23 feet. At the bottom of the antenna is a matching network that does not require extended radials. Not requiring ground radials makes this type of antenna ideal for Hams with space limitations. The base of the antenna is mounted approximately 18ft above the ground.

Testing the antenna with an antenna analyzer showed low SWRs for all band frequencies including 12 and 17 meters. The radiation angle is very low and, as with all verticals, is perfect for DX'ing.



First reports on the antenna are promising. The new antenna was first tested using the club's Flex 6300 radio. After tuning around the bands we landed on 30meters and the Flex was able to tune up on the band. Randy WB4SPB made the antenna's first CW contact on 30 meters. He ended up having a 30 minute CW QSO. More testing is needed to properly evaluate the antenna but first looks are promising.

During assembly of this antenna some additional steps were taken to help ensure antenna components were put together properly. Most aluminum antennas have parts that telescope into each other. This is where one aluminum tube is fitted into another. It is important to have good contact between these antenna components. The Comet antenna was a donation to the club and was previously assembled, so all of the aluminum antenna parts that fit together were cleaned with fine steel wool. This was done to remove any contamination and oxidation. If antenna parts are put together and don't make good contact, you're creating a capacitor with the contamination between parts acting like a dielectric. The antenna will not tune properly if this happens.

To ensure the antenna parts that fit together and make proper contact, a compound called Penetrox was used. Penetrox A is a specially formulated grease that contains tiny zinc particles which ensure continuity between the elements and help prevent corrosion. Joints that are not coated can quickly corrode in the Northwest's wet environment and likely seize together. Penetrox A is inexpensive (\$12.85 plus shipping at Amazon) and one bottle will last you a lifetime.



Adam Barbera

<https://www.amazon.com/Burndy-P8A-Oxide-Inhibiting-Compounds-Container/dp/B008KLX2RY>

### CALLING ALL RADIO CLUB of TACOMA MEMBERS

Have you recently designed a piece of gear? Have you built a useful kit project?

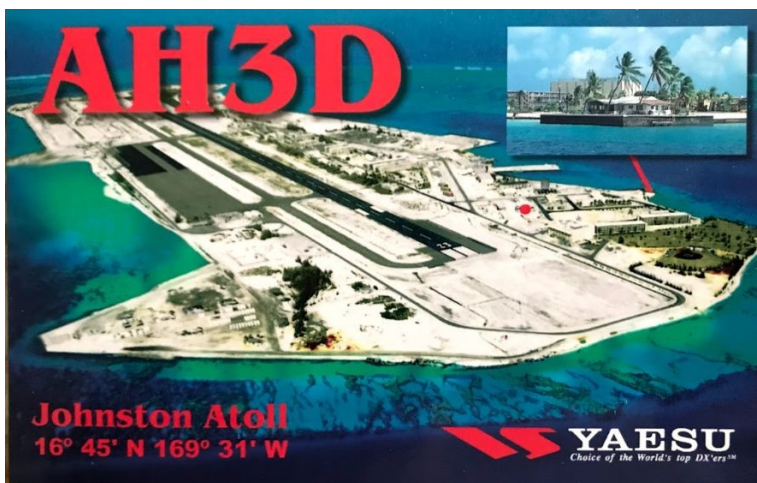
Have you run some experiments on your antenna? Have you modified part of your station?

If you have please let me know about it with an email so we can tell the world.

[hickspj467@comcast.net](mailto:hickspj467@comcast.net)



## New QSL Manager makes some interesting finds



Anne, N7ANN, in her new role as W7DK QSL Card Manager, is taking advantage of being snowbound to really dig in to the huge pile of QSL cards that have been received over many years but never entered into the log.

The cards hail from all around the globe, including a very rare DX-Pedition card from AH3D in Johnson Atoll - a place not likely to be activated again any time soon due to Fish & Wildlife policy regarding environmentally sensitive areas, as well as con-

tamination from 70 years of military use of the island.

These cards were stored for years in a box labeled "not in log". It was assumed by previous QSL managers that they were "busted calls", meaning the other operator's call was not properly received on our end, thus the call didn't match the log. But last year, when I started going through them and seeing calls like WB4SPB (Randy), KD4VOM (Larry), cards sent to us from DX-Peditions, and other clearly-reliable sources I realized they just never gotten entered by the operator at the time of the contact.

So in early 2018 I consulted with a number of key members of the W7DK HF team and we decided to declare the cards all to be valid, and worthy of entering in to the W7DK permanent logging software.

I did the first 82 cards last year, before losing steam. But Anne has now taken on the job with zeal and in just one day doubled my efforts! She is entering them in one at a time into N3FJP Amateur Contact Log software. Once this is done, she will export an ADIF file so Randy WB4SPB can append them into the master log system with a note in the comments section stating they are from the "not in log" box but also state "all evidence indicates they are valid QSOs".



**We are grateful to those who made AH3D possible:**  
Colonel Timothy K. Bridges, Captain Brian Hippel and Senior Airman Travis Whitlock of the U.S. Air Force and David Faucher, KH3AC, John Peters, K1ERKH6, Gary Belcher, KH6GMP, Miki Maruya, WA6F, Chip Margelli, K7JA, Janet Margelli, KL7MF, Jim McCook, W6YA and Glenn Rattmann, K6NA.

Vertex Standard Co., Ltd., NCDXF, OHDXF, Daily DX, N3OSH, N3ME, KE3Q, N4GN, N7NG, W57W, OH1MA, OH2BC, OH2BE and OH2BO.  
Photo of the Point House courtesy Ben Janacek

**To Radio:                      W7DK**

I'm happy to confirm the following 2-way QSO(s):

Date	UTC	MHz	Mode	RST
2003-02-01	19:22	14	SSB	59

**AH3D - When Dreams Come True**

**Operators:**                      **Martti Laine, OH2BH**  
   **Pertti Simovaara, OH2PM**  
   **Bernie McClenny, W3UR**

**Equipment:**                      Yaesu FT1000MP, FT897 and FT857  
   Alpha 76, FinnFet FF1001, Ameritron 811  
   Mosley tri-bander, 3-L 6m-beam  
   WARC-beam and slopers @ 90 feet

QSO data printed by OH2DK



Anne also found a few SASE QSL card requests that had never been mailed, dating from a few years ago. It is the W7DK policy to only return cards if an SASE is provided so she'll be getting those out in the mail soon.

She has also found a fair number of QSL Bureau cards that she is setting aside. Once she knows how many are in fact via Bureau, she will request funds from the Board of Directors to bundle them and send to the ARRL outgoing QSL bureau to be sent to those distant operators.

The last step will be to sort them into order by year so they can be more easily searched if someone should have the need to see a particular card. This will add approximately 1000 orphaned QSL cards and the contact data they contain to our master database, so future hams will have access to them in the case of wanting to do a search for a call sign from the distant past. -Dave W7UUU

**Billy Hallicrafters "AIRWAVE PATROL"**

TIME TO GET READY FOR SCHOOL BILLY!

O.K. MOM! I WAS JUST-- SAY, WAIT A MINUTE!

ROGER! ONE TWO TO CONTROL.... WAIT.... MAYDAY! I'VE FLAMED OUT 10 MILES SOUTH OF WEST PORT... BAILING OUT... BAILING OUT!....

GOODNESS! WHAT IS IT BILLY??

EMERGENCY MOM! JET PILOT BAILED OUT... GOTTA CALL THE CIVIL AIR PATROL QUICK!

THAT'S RIGHT SIR! JUST HEARD IT ON MY HALLICRAFTERS RECEIVER! SAID IT HAPPENED TEN MILES SOUTH.... HURRY SIR!!

... AND A FEW MILES SOUTH OF TOWN:

GOLLY! MY CHUTE'S TORN! CAN'T CONTROL IT! WATCH OUT.... THOSE TREES!

A FEW MINUTES LATER ABOARD A C.A.P. HELICOPTER....

KEEP YOUR EYE PEELED FOR A CHUTE, SERGEANT! WE'RE NEAR THE AREA.

GOOD THING THAT BOY WAS TUNED IN CAPTAIN... GUESS NOBODY ELSE HEARD THE MAYDAY. SAY! THERE HE IS IN THOSE TREES!

LOOKS BAD SIR! HE'S UNCONSCIOUS... WE'D BETTER HURRY!

EASY, SERGEANT. WE'LL HAVE HIM BACK IN THE HOSPITAL IN FIVE MINUTES!

GEE, YOU CAME IN LOUD AND CLEAR ON MY HALLICRAFTERS S-53A! HEARD EVERY WORD!

THANKS, BILLY! ... ONLY HAD TIME TO SEND ONE FAST MESSAGE! YOU SAVED MY LIFE FOR SURE!

SHORT WAVE LISTENING IS THE MOST FASCINATING HOBBY THERE IS, SON. I'VE BEEN A LISTENER FOR YEARS.

**—You hear more wonderful things on a HALLICRAFTERS short-wave set!**

**MODEL S-38D.** Mac standard Broadstar plus three short wave bands (1600 to 12,000 mc), Foreign receiver... ship... aircraft, etc. 100-watt speaker, piano jack. Hardwood gray steel cabinet, silver trim. \$49.95. Also available in mahogany or island finish with gold trim. \$54.95.

**MODEL S-53A.** Beautiful receiver with standard Broadstar plus four short wave bands covering all the exciting events on emergency frequencies... foreign stations... amateurs. Phone and headphase jacks. 5" PM speaker. Sensitivity and tone controls. Satin black finish. \$89.95.

**SEND FOR FREE BOOKLET & TIME DIAL.** Send coupon for global time dial and illustrated brochure describing fully the complete line of famous

**hallicrafters**  
communications transmitters and receivers.  
The Hallicrafters Co., 4401 W. Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

For complete information see your local Hallicrafters radio parts distributor

Copyrighted material

## LUNCH is SERVED— \$6.00

A sandwich lunch is now offered to the RCT members at the Eagle's club prior to the General Meeting every first Saturday. You have your choice of Ham, Turkey, or Egg Salad on several types of bread and a wide choice of condiments such as two types of cheese, lettuce, pickle, mustard, mayonnaise, and it includes a bag of chips. Simply fill out the order slip on the last page of the newsletter and give it to the sandwich maker.

All this for \$6.00 - sign up / order before the meeting. A recurring order is also available. *See last page.*

**Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)**

Western Washington Section  
District 5, Pierce County ARES  
[www.PierceCountyARES.net](http://www.PierceCountyARES.net)

**Greetings,**

ARES articles provide information about amateur radio emergency communications, and Pierce County District 5 ARES activities and events. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is an ARRL organization dedicated to Amateur Radio Emergency Communication through skill and preparedness.

## When You Need Amateur Radio, You Really Need It!

**The Background...**

Pierce County ARES manages local ARES activity, training, exercises, and skill development. Pierce County ARES supports and meets at the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center.

## Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, to Oversee Volunteer Monitors Development and Implementation

*(Selected extracts from the recent ARRL Newsletter)*

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, will oversee the development and implementation phases of ARRL's new Volunteer Monitors (VM) program, which will replace the Official Observers (OO) program. Hollingsworth, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, has stepped down as ARRL Atlantic Division Vice Director to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. The development phase of the program is already under way.

Approved by the ARRL Board of Directors last July, the Volunteer Monitors will work in cooperation with the FCC. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the amateur bands for possible instances of misconduct or to recognize exemplary on-air operation. Cases of flagrant violations or noncompliance will be directed to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines. The program, which aims to re-energize Amateur Radio enforcement efforts, was proposed by the FCC following the closure of several FCC regional offices and reductions in field staff.

Hollingsworth has identified three phases to the program -- development, solicitation and training, and implementation. The development phase will include drafting a mission statement, clearly defining ARRL's and the FCC's requirements and needs as part of the program, drafting a Volunteer Manager job description, and developing a training manual for volunteers.

Implementation will involve having the volunteers provide field reports, and ARRL staff offering guidance to volunteers to ensure that the information gathered meets FCC requirements. Continuing education will be provided to the volunteers as part of the program.

ARRL officials estimate that it will take 9 - 12 months before the first Volunteer Monitors begin filing reports.

**Stormageddon Side Note:** During the recent severe weather event, Multiple county ARES Nets remained operational, documented, and reported periodic weather related events to include road conditions, power outages and similar situations.

**ARES activities:** Pierce County ARES completed a Saturday Leadership Training Workshop on 26 January. Key topics Included:

1. Intro/Orientation to Leadership organization

2. Leadership: What the heck is it?
3. So you made me an Emergency Coordinator/Radio Operator, now what?
4. Training (Internal/External)
5. Exercises (Program, Design, Planning, and Conduct)

#### **Coming Events/Training:**

*(Unless otherwise indicated location is Pierce County Emergency Operations Center)*

The 21 February ARES Meeting is planned to address Land Navigation, but recent weather disruptions may alter this schedule

March 30<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Exercise; This exercise will be a full-scale formal exercise to evaluate ARES organizational units in their response to key area potential hazards, and to identify weakness areas to build into the annual training program.

#### **ARES Meetings**

Pierce County ARES Meets Monthly, at 7 pm on the **Third Thursday** at the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center. Meetings always have a program, with a EmComm Training Focus.

**Pierce County District 5 Website:** <http://www.piercecountyares.net/web>

**ARES Membership Application:** <http://www.piercecountyares.net/web/application>

**ARES Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PierceCountyARES/files/>

**Washington State Emergency Management:** <https://www.facebook.com/WashEMD/>

#### **ARES Information and Communications Plan frequencies:**

For ARES Team, EOC frequencies, and other ARES activities you may also use the following W7DK.org Website, using the following link:

[http://www.w7dk.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=46&Itemid=111](http://www.w7dk.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=46&Itemid=111)

Larry Watson, KD4VOM  
Pierce County ARES  
[Kd4vom@mailcan.com](mailto:Kd4vom@mailcan.com)

**Committed to our Community**  
**When All Else Fails**





## MFJ 618 Dual Channel Speech Intelligibility Enhancer Modifications

By P.J. Hicks, N7PH

Last year when Adam, W2NCC organized the first “trial” group buy from MFJ, the *MFJ-618 Dual Channel Speech Intelligibility Enhancer* was chosen as the item to purchase. I believe there were 9 units purchased at about a 28% discount. All but one of the units was spoken for. The MFJ-618 was well received by the members who used it at the clubhouse during the ‘pre-buy’ trial period. A few weeks ago when the third group buy was being distributed I purchased the remaining unit in addition to my other items. A look at the schematic reveals that power to the unit remains ON at all times with no indicator light and that the ‘Power’ switch on the front panel is actually an audio routing switch that bypasses all amplification circuitry power when in the off position. I noticed also that the standoff spacing was a bit off causing several of the pushbuttons to rub on their respective panel holes.

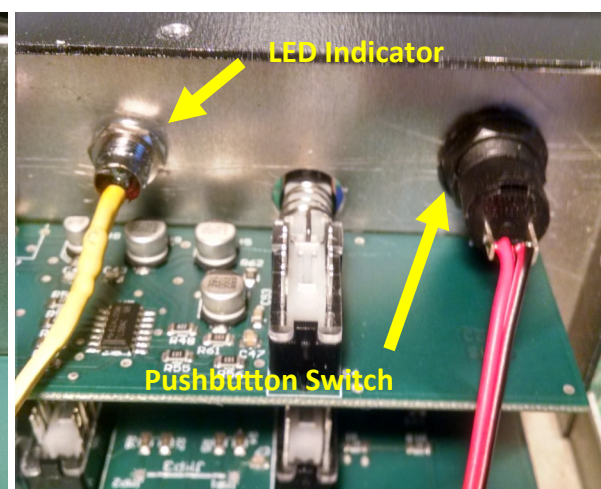
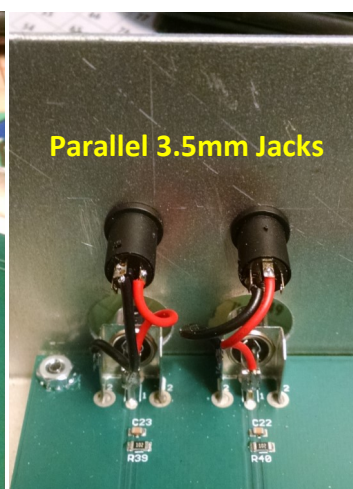
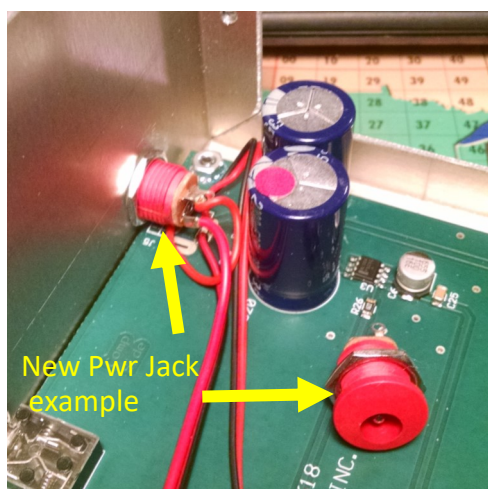
After disassembly I determined that the spacers used by the manufacturer were too long on the bottom, main pcb and the daughter board was spaced too far above the main board. These spacers were SAE. That is, they were ¼” and 1” respectively. I changed them to 5mm and 24mm; not perfect but much better and no rubbing.

Adding a power switch, indicator light and new power connector was a bit more complicated. The access hole for the original pcb mounted power connector happened to be just the right size for one of the panel mount barrel connectors I had on hand (*see pic below*) and the hole was offset upwards just barely enough that my connector would fit without panel modification. Desoldering the original connector was accomplished using copious lengths of solder wick and patience. That done, I selected a pushbutton style switch to match the unit’s style and a bezel mounted LED to install on the front panel. The unit only required a bit more disassembly to free the front panel for drilling to accommodate the switch and LED. Routing some connecting wire and reassembly took only minutes and the finished unit looks great and is now able to be powered down.

Lastly, I am not a fan or user of RCA jacks so I drilled the rear panel above the OEM RCA input jacks for Stereo 3.5mm jacks and wired the new jacks in parallel. A simple matter with lots of room inside the case.

*A caution if you decide to do this modification. The 10 resistor pots are only held by their solder legs when the unit’s panels are removed. They are very subject to flexing and could be damaged so be very careful to disturb them as little as possible.*





## RCT WINTER SALE 2019

AS OF 6 FEB 2019 (RED IS NEW ITEMS)

	PRICE	RCT #
1. Millen Grid Dip Osc.	\$150.00	3819
2. Tube Tester Meter	\$ 10.00	
3. Meter Tube Tester Jewel	\$ 10.00	
4. Heath Clock GS-1000	\$ 150.00	3706
6. Hallicrafter S-38A Receiver	\$ 30.00	3821
7. ICOM 440 mobile XCVR IC-410	\$ 50.00	3519
11. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-450	\$ 300.00	3389
12. MFJ Ant Tuner MFJ-986	\$ 200.00	3825
14. W2THY Memory Keyer	\$ 20.00	3759
15. Gonset 6 MTR XCVR COMM 3	\$ 40.00	3637
16. Gonset HF SSB TX GSB-100	\$ 100.00	3866
18. Yaesu HF PWR AMP FT-2100B	\$ 400.00	3827
20. ICOM HF XCVR IC-725	\$ 200.00	3810
21. Dentron Super tuner	\$ 75.00	3646
22. wooden speaker	\$ 10.00	
24. Kenwood Microphone MC-80	\$ 60.00	3393
25. Kenwood XTAL Filter YG-455C-1	\$ 75.00	3844
27. Battery Charger AT-5000	\$ 30.00	3778
29. Shure Microphone	\$ 30.00	3363
35. EICO HF XCVR 753/ with PS	\$ 100.00	3867
38. ICOM UHF ALL MODE XCVR IC-471A RX OK, TX-0	\$ 150.00	3830
41. Suitcase with Tektronix scope camera	\$ 100.00	
42. Tekronix Oscilloscope 422	\$ 50.00	3849
43. Tekronix Oscilloscope 547	\$ 50.00	3850
44. HP VHF Signal Generator 608E	\$ 50.00	3851
53. Drake XCVR TR-4	\$ 225.00	3859
54. Drake power Supply AC-3 p/o 53		3860
56. HP Frequency counter 5230L	\$ 75.00	3868
57. Triplet VOM 360	\$ 100.00	3869
58. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-450S SN: 41200236	\$350.00	3872



	PRICE	RCT#
59. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-520SE SN: 732164	\$200.00	3873
61. Drake HF RX R-4C SN: 18647	\$ 100.00	3875
62. Drake HF XCVR TR-4 SN: 27035	\$ 100.00	3876
63. HP Signal Generator 8640B SN: 1350A01429	\$ 250.00	3878
64. HP Signal Generator 8640B SN: 1341A01172	\$ 250.00	3879
65. ATO Interstate log sweep generator F77 SN: 941	\$ 75.00	3880
66. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-520 SN: 40587	\$200.00	3881
67. Kikusui COS Oscilloscope 6100M SN: 4041791	\$ 150.00	3882
70. HP Frequency Counter 5328A SN: 2248A56070	\$ 100.00	3885
71. Non-Linear Systems mini-scope MS-215 SN: 8314	\$ 30.00	3886
72. Leader Bench power supply LPS-152 SN: 2030113	\$ 100.00	3887
73. HP TRUE RMS METER 3403A SN: 1223A00525	\$ 50.00	3888
74. Tektronix Storage scope/5-plug-ins 7834 SN: 8034906	\$ 150.00	3889
75. Hammarlund HF RX Model SP-600	\$ 50.00	3890
76. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-440S SN: 10600037	\$300.00	3891
80. Yaesu HF XCVR FT-757GX/mic/mb SN: 4H110753	\$300/83-\$350.00	3897
81. Yaesu VHF XCVR FT-2900/mic SN: 2D400129	\$ 100.00	3898
83. Tigertronics Signal Link USB-8R (Yaesu cable)	\$ 75.00	3900
84. Comet Triplexer CFX-514	\$ 50.00	3902
85. National HF Receiver NC-183D	\$ 100.00	3904
86. Heathkit HF Transmitter DX-100	\$ 80.00	3905
87. Astron power supply RS-35 M	\$ 70.00	3341
88. Alinco VHF 2 meter mobile DR135MK3	\$ 75.00	3909
91. TEN TEK HF XCVR OM NI 6+	\$ 900.00	3913
92. TEN TEK XVRTR model 1208	\$ 20.00	3912
93. TEN TEK HF AMP Centurion/ PS # 94	\$ 1000.00	3914
94. TEN TEK Power Supply OMNI PS	P/O # 93	3915
95. TEN TEK HF Tuner model 238	\$ 250.00	3916
96. Kenwood HF XCVR TS 50	\$ 200.00	3921
97. MFJ Ant Tuner MFJ-948	\$ 75.00	3922
98. Astron Power Supply RS-35M	\$ 70.00	3923
99. Icom HF XCVR IC-701/PS IC-701PS	\$ 200.00	3924/3925
100. Ameriton HF Amp AL-80B	\$ 750.00	3927
101. Timewave TNC Terminal DSP-9+	\$ 40.00	3929
102. Radioshack Power Supply 22-127E 12vdc/1.75A	\$ 5.00	3930
103. Astron Power Supply RS-20M	\$ 40.00	3932
104. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-570D	\$ 350.00	3933
105. Heil Sound MIC HM-10/desk mount	\$ 100.00	3934
106. Mirage VHF 2 meter Amp B-2516G	\$ 150.00	3936
107. Ameriton HF AMP AL-811	\$ 500.00	3937
108. Kenwood HF XCVR TS-440S/with AT	\$ 350.00	3938
109. HP Spectrum Analyzer 141-T/ 4-plug -in modules	\$ 200.00	3884

Please contact Red Cranefield, WB7EC, at [WB7EC@w7dk.org](mailto:WB7EC@w7dk.org) OR any club PMT officer with questions or to purchase any of these items or to inquire about other items in the club's inventory. We constantly get new inventory so if you need something in particular please ask. It may be available.

## ***This and That***

Converting MFJ Ham Radio Gadgets into Community Learning.

Since the beginning of Ham Radio, hams have been adept at learning from one another. Here is your chance to help foster that sort of learning.

As I was processing the recent MFJ order for payment, I spotted some orders I labeled as “very interesting”. They left me wondering what sort of problem solutions or experiments might be in-the-works.

So here is the opportunity; whether you are using your new MFJ “device” on some problem or just experimenting for the curiosity of it. How about telling me your story? And we can do a short ***This and That*** article on it. Think about it. It’s your opportunity to connect to another Ham with a learning opportunity through your experience.

And a great big “*hats off*” to Adam Barbera, W2NCC, for his efforts in coordinating the recent MFJ group purchase. It takes a lot of effort to pull an order like that together, not only in time but also nervous energy to stay on top of things. THANK YOU ADAM!

### **HOT AIR-SURFACE MOUNT (SMT) SOLDERING WORKSHOP**

Reminder: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, April 24, at the Club House. Dan Vacanti KG7DWF and I will be offering hands-on experience with a hot air wand. Dan and I are looking for ham related SMT kits that might make a good assembly project. Any suggestions? Please let us know. [AF7YD@w7dk.org](mailto:AF7YD@w7dk.org)

That’s ***This and That*** for now.

Hope you found this helpful. Topic Suggestions & Feedback Welcome.

73’s, Steve AF7YD



**Radio Club of Tacoma  
General Meeting Minutes  
January 5, 2019**

**Meeting called to order** at 1330 PST by President Dave W7UUU at **Tacoma Eagles Aerie #3, 4810 South Tacoma Way.**

**Officers and Directors Present**

President     Dave Ellison W7UUU  
Secretary    Mike Finnie W7MWF  
Treasurer    Steve Dightman AF7YD  
Board        Red Cranefield WB7EC  
Board        Phil Pia K7PIA

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by President Dave W7UUU

**Welcome and Self-Introductions**

Guests present were Jim Brown, Jasmine Pallwitz, and Hartley  
No new calls were recognized  
Self-introductions were completed. Many of those present enjoyed sandwiches prepared by the Eagles staff, and banana bread and brownies prepared by Anne N7ANN.

**Health and Welfare**

Silent Keys and Illness - None announced

**Secretary's Report**    Mike W7MWF announced receipt of the usual stuff: periodicals, utility bills, bank statements, membership renewals and insurance policies.

**Treasurer's Report**    Steve AF7YD reported that he has nearly completed the migration of the accounts from Microsoft Money to Quickbooks.

**President's Report**    Dave W7UUU gave accolades for the Straight Key Night event. He also advised that the Summer Picnic venue will again be at Fort Steilacoom Park on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Committee / Activity Reports**

Membership    Mike W7MKE reported that 2018 closed out with 264 members. There have thus far been approximately 190 renewals completed.

Training        Tech License Training is being held this weekend Jan 5/6  
General License Training will be conducted by Dave N7HT Jan 17 through Mar 21

VE Report      The next VE Session will be held January 8

HF Operations (K7PIA)      HF Station Ops report was provided by Phil K7PIA. The Flex 6500 has been repaired under factory warranty and is expected to be returned during the next week. The HF committee has been working on their mission and task lists. Upcoming issues to be addressed include station grounding and headset replacements. The HF committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday afternoon of each month. Al N7OMS announced that

W7OS will participate in the SKCC K3Y event.

Repeater Ops    No report was made regarding repeater operations.

IT Report        Randy WB4SPB reported that all IT equipment operation was truly hunky-dory, up to snuff, and functioning in a proper and optimal condition.

Museum         Randy reported that the past month museum activity consisted of preparation for Straight Key Night. Also, Rich KR7W is planning to build additional shelving and is soliciting donations from club members for plywood suitable for the project.

Facilities Mgmt    On behalf of Adam W2NCC, Mike reported on the facilities status. He also noted that purchase of new coax to run to the garage had been authorized. At the BOD meeting on Jan 2, Mike W7MKE presented a concept plan for a new 10 x 20 foot storage structure. Mike is soliciting material donations and developing a list of supplies and construction materials that will be needed. Members were reminded to please refrain from bringing food and spillable drinks into the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the clubhouse to make life more difficult for squirrels, mice, and other vermin.

Prop Mgmt        Red WB7EC gave updates on sales and donations. Prep for Mike and Key Flea Market (March)

4<sup>th</sup> Weds Activity Night -        TBD

## **New Business**

### **Unfinished Business and Announcements**

Straight Key Night    The Doc Spike Memorial Museum W7OS hosted the annual Straight Key Night event on New Year's 'Eveternoon'. The get-together was deemed a huge success with 9 QSOs being made and tasty pizza, desserts and other snacks consumed with gusto. Phil K7PIA was the BINGO King.  
The Club is asking for volunteers to act as hosts for Info Booth upstairs at the Mike and Key event to be held Saturday, March 10. Contact Secretary Mike W7MWF

**Program**        From the vaults of the Radio Club of Tacoma – Dave present a video he has recently salvaged from old VHS tapes. The feature included a televised interview with Past President Mick Pier KK7QS and Morel Guyot W6LIX (SK)

## **Tuning and Traffic**

**Show and Tell**        Dave W7UUU demonstrated a straight key fabricated by Steve Blacksten AD7VL in a 'build-a-key' contest held at Straight Key Night several years ago.

**Door Prize**        Door prizes were won by Dave K7GCA and Al N7OMS.

**Raffle Prize**        A G5RV-style antenna was raffled and was subsequently won by Dave N7HT.

**Adjournment**    There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1433 PST.



**Radio Club of Tacoma  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
January 2, 2019**

**Meeting called to order** at 1859 PST by President Dave W7UUU.

**Officers and Directors Present**

President      Dave Ellison W7UUU  
Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ  
Secretary     Mike Finnie W7MWF  
Treasurer     Steve Dightman AF7YD  
Board          Bruce Hanson WE7P  
Board          Paul Matney W7PFU  
Board          Adam Barbera W2NCC  
Board          Red Cranefield WB7EC  
Board          Phil Pia K7PIA

**Quorum**        A quorum was present. There were 13 names on the sign-in sheet

**Welcome** new Officers and Directors were welcomed and congratulated. President Dave distributed certificates to members absent from the annual banquet – Appreciation Certificate to Doug AD7AV and President's Award to Paul W7PFU

**Silent Key or Illness?** It was noted that Worth W7WG had recently been hospitalized, but was reported to be home and doing well. Peter AD7EU advised that he is undergoing observation for a medical issue.

**Minutes** of December 5, 2018 Board Meeting were approved as circulated

**Secretary's Report**    Mike W7MWF reported receipt of the usual correspondence: insurance policies, utilities, subscriptions, and dues renewals

**Treasurer's Report**    Steve AF7YD reported that the accounts are in good shape and the migration from MS Money to Quickbooks is nearly complete. Steve expects to be able to produce illustrative financial reports beginning next month.

**Committee / Reports** Membership    On behalf of George, Mike W7MKE reported that the year was closed out with approximately 264 current members. The 2019 renewal statistics were not available.

**Library**            Doug AD7AV provided his semi-annual report on Library and Historical/Archive issues. A copy of his report is filed with these minutes. Doug's request for 2019 Library funding in the amount of \$500.00 was approved.

**Training**        Tech License Training Jan 5/6  
General License Training Jan 17 through Mar 21. It was suggested that instructor Dave N7HT be provided with credentials to access the clubhouse if he was willing to undertake opening and shutdown procedures. If that solution does not work, a cadre of docents will be recruited.

VE Testing Jan 8

**Info Tech**    Randy WB4SPB reported that the IT infrastructure was functioning fine.

**HF Operations**    Phil K7PIA reported that the Flex 6500 had been shipped to the manufacturer for repair under warranty. The HF committee will be having regular monthly meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 1300 at the clubhouse.

**Repeater Ops**    There was no repeater status report made.

**Facilities Mgmt**    Adam W2NCC advised that the permit had been issued for upgrades to the electric system. Rich KR7W will develop a material list and Al N7OMS will procure the items. Work will begin after the supplies are on-hand and a work team has been assembled.

Adam reported that the old coax to the garage antennas was contributing to roof damage on the structure. Adam requested purchase of new coax to enable reconfiguring of the feed lines going to the garage. The Board authorized purchase of 500 feet of LMR400 Flex with cost not to exceed \$700 including tax and delivery.

Adam reported that there may be an issue with the lockset on the garage man-door. This will be monitored and resolved if the problem is again encountered.

**Property Mgmt**    Red WB7EC provided updates on sales and donations. Sales of surplus equipment in 2018 exceeded \$7,000.00. Red also submitted an equipment list for disposal authorization, which was subsequently approved by the Board. Copies of the January 2019 disposition list and the 2018 sales recap are filed with these minutes.

**Museum**    Randy WB4SPB reported that the museum had been busy getting everything set up and ready to go for Straight Key Night. Future plans for the museum include additional shelving construction. President Dave heaped high praise on the museum staff for their contributions and for the condition of the museum.

**Weds Workshop**    The topic for the December 4WAN is not yet established.

**General Meeting**    Dave W7UUU advised that the January 5, 2019 General Meeting will include showing of several videos of past club activities that he has successfully processed from old media.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mike W7MKE presented a plan for the construction of a 10 X 20 foot lean-to style storage shed. It was the consensus of the Board and of members present that the concept was suitable for its proposed use. Mike will develop a materials list and solicit donations of building materials. He will report back to the Board as appropriate and as materials are assembled a construction crew will be recruited.

Steve AF7YD advised that he will be submitting paperwork to the Boy Scouts now that it is a new year.

### **New Business**

The Board authorized the Treasurer to continue to make payment of regular and recurring expenses without additional Board approval.

Mandated Presidential Appointments of certain key individuals were made by Dave W7UUU

Parliamentarian	Peter Baker AD7EU
Newsletter Editor	PJ Hicks N7PJ
Website Admin	Randy Myers WB4SPB
Club Historian	Doug Oakman AD7AV
Training Coordinator	Stephen Morton AD7AB
Museum Curator	Richard Patrick KR7W

**Other New Business**

Appointment of other committee chairs: Dave W7UUU reported that the chairs of all standing and ad hoc committees have agreed to continued service. Anne N7ANN will undertake the duties as the QSL manager for W7DK.

President Dave W7UUU appointed Chuck AC7QN as the at-large RCT member of the W7OS club. Other members are the President and Secretary of the Radio Club of Tacoma and the Museum Curator

**Activity Reports and Discussion Topics**

Straight Key Night SKN was determined to have been a tremendous success. Kudos to the W7OS Museum for all their work in sponsoring the event. A total of 9 QSOs were made by operators.

Clubhouse Host – a host is needed for the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday open house during months when there are 5 Saturdays.

Dave W7UUU has received comments that the Silent Key Memorials need to be updated

**Announcements** Adam W2NCC reported that the group order has been transmitted to MFJ for fulfillment.

**Adjournment** was at 2029 PST.



## **THE CLUB LINEUP**

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Dave Ellison, W7UUU - w7uuu@w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis, W7XTZ - w7xtz@w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Finnie, W7MWF - w7mwf@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd@w7dk.org

### **5 BOARD MEMBERS**

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p@w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu@w7dk.org

Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc@w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec@w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia@w7dk.org

THE LOGGER'S BARK is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA...* and is published by RCT, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98405, phone: 253-759-2040.

### **LOGGER'S BARK STAFF**

Editor: P. J. Hicks, N7PH

Contributors: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma and others

Send articles to: hickspj467@comcast.net, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411

The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: [www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org).

Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The Loggers Bark. If a credit line is included in the article, please seek permission from the original writer also.

**MEMBERSHIP INFO:** FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$35 per calendar year. \$30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

[www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org) - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

### **RADIO CLUB REPEATERS**





Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia @ 1500 ft. ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3

PRINT PAGE AND CUT OUT AND GIVE TO SANDWICH MAKER

Radio Club of Tacoma PO Box 11188 Tacoma, Washington 98411 USA		<b>W7DK</b> In association with		
<h1>Menu</h1>		<i>All Sandwiches \$6—including a bag of chips. Your choice of condiments. Cash only! Tax Included—tip is extra!</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Egg Salad Sandwich</b> —check condiments & options below		
<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Turkey Sandwich</b> —check condiments & options below		
<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Ham Sandwich</b> —check condiments & options below		
<i>All sandwiches served on fresh Hoagie Rolls</i>				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheese	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pickles	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lettuce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mayonnaise	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Onions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mustard	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tomatoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recurring Order	
Name:		Call:		

Above you will see the Radio Club of Tacoma's lunch menu for the Lunch Sandwich Special prepared and served by the Eagles Club prior to the General Meeting each first Saturday of the month. To make ordering easier simply cut out the menu above, fill it in, and give it to the sandwich maker. Please arrive around 12:30pm to ensure you get a fresh sandwich and have time to eat it. *They are indeed yummy and very fresh. P.J.H. N7PH editor.*